

Planning and Resource Management for Our Communities and the Environment

31 May 2002

Scott E. Shewbridge, Ph.D., P.E., G.E. Senior Engineer - Hydroelectric Eldorado Irrigation District 2890 Mosquito Road Placerville, California 95667

Richard Floch Richard Floch and Associates P.O. Box P.O. Box 285 Rescue, California 95672

Subject: Final for Distribution

Technical Memorandum Number 6 – Great Gray Owl Habitat Maps

Dear Dr. Shewbridge and Mr. Floch:

In order to help evaluate the potential to displace or disturb great gray owls as a result of Project #184 operations, habitat maps of potential great gray owl habitat were obtained from the El Dorado National Forest office in Placerville, along with CalVeg and Wildlife Habitat Relationships (WHR) cover type information. Additional vegetation cover type information was obtained from maps presented in the Application for License for the El Dorado Hydroelectric Project (FERC Project No. 184) February 2000, Volume 5, Exhibit E, Appendix W and O, created by Price Geographic Consulting and Resource Insights. Attached please find the table showing the approximate acreage of great gray owl habitat within a ¼ mile of the Project #184 facilities (reservoirs, canal, powerhouse). This is a final for distribution. The primary prepares of Technical Memorandum Number 6 are listed below:

EIP Associates

Roy Leidy Russell Kobayashi, RPF No. 2725

Should you have any questions or wish to discuss this report please contact me.

Sincerely,

Roy Leidy Principal

Roy Lidy

Director, Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences

Attachments

EL DORADO IRRIGATION DISTRICT FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION PROJECT NUMBER 184

GREAT GRAY OWL HABITAT MAPS

In order to help evaluate the potential to displace or disturb great gray owls as a result of Project #184 operations, habitat maps of potential great gray owl habitat were obtained from the El Dorado National Forest office in Placerville, along with CalVeg and Wildlife Habitat Relationships cover type information. Additional vegetation cover type information was obtained from maps presented in the Application for License for the El Dorado Hydroelectric Project (FERC Project No. 184) February 2000, Volume 5, Exhibit E, Appendix W, created by Price Geographic Consulting and Resource Insights.

Great gray owls are normally found in high elevation, conifer dominated vegetation types, that are in close proximity to large meadow habitats. The attached maps show great gray owl habitat found near the Project #184 reservoirs (Caples Lake, Lake Aloha, Silver Lake and Echo Lake), and around the Project #184 canal and powerhouse. A quarter mile assessment around these project facilities is also displayed on the maps, and an estimate of the acreage of great gray owl habitat within a quarter mile is presented in the attached table. The maps show that there is no suitable great gray owl habitat within a quarter mile of Lake Aloha, Echo Lake or along the entire length of the canal. Silver Lake has approximately 20 acres and Caples Lake has approximately 13 acres of great gray owl habitat.

Great Gray Owl habitat within ¼ mile of Eldorado Irrigation District FERC Project #184 facilities (reserviors, canal, powerhouse).

Silver Lake	Acres
Great gray owl habitat	20
Other habitat	793
Barren	180
Total	993
<u>Caples Lake</u>	Acres
Great gray owl habitat	13
Other habitat	885
Barren	132
Total	1,030
Lake Aloha	Acres
Great gray owl habitat	0
Other habitat	129
Barren	1,030
Total	1,159
Echo Lake	Acres
Great gray owl habitat	0
Other habitat	614
Barren	158
Total	772
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EID Canal	Acres
Great gray owl habitat	0
Other habitat	7,037
Barren	50
Total	7,087







